

(small lake); and South Fork/War Fork No. 3A (large lake). Preliminary studies concluded that the Horse Lick and Water Fork watershed should be preserved due to environmental sensitivities. Of the sites previously considered, local officials are proposing that the preferred alternative sites for an impoundment structure are located within the Laurel Fork watershed. There are two primary dam sites to be considered—(1) Laurel Fork near the confluence with Indian Creek and (2) Laurel Fork near the Highway 290 Bridge. The EIS proposes to document the extensive analyses already performed and evaluate in detail the two sites that have been designated as preferred alternatives by local officials. Which ever site is chosen, the applicant and Empowerment Zone officials will be required to secure a construction permit from the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection, Division of Waters and a Section 10, Rivers and Harbor Act permit from the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers.

**Dick Mansfield,**

*Assistant Administrator, Water and Environmental Programs.*

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## COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

### Procurement List; Additions

**AGENCY:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

**ACTION:** Additions to the procurement list.

**SUMMARY:** This action adds to the Procurement List commodities and service to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 2, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Square 3, Suite 403, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3461.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On February 21, June 6 and 13, 1997, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (62 F.R. 8003, 31065 and 32288) of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

The following comments pertain to Strap, Webbing (5340-01-114-7712):

Comments were received from the current contractor for this webbing strap and from another manufacturer of webbing straps. The current contractor indicated that addition of the strap to the Procurement List would have a severe adverse impact on the company because of the loss of tooling and equipment costs and possible loss of jobs in a firm that had recently substantially reduced its manufacturing staff. The other manufacturer objected to the Committee removing from the competitive marketplace yet another Government item it considers itself capable of making.

This strap represents a very small percentage of the current contractor's total sales. Tooling and equipment costs are a business decision a contractor undertakes to get specific business. Because no company is guaranteed continuing contracts under the Government's competitive bidding system, the contractor could lose this investment even if the Committee did not add the strap to the Procurement List. While the contractor noted that it had reduced its staff recently, it did not indicate that its sales, which expanded considerably over the past decade, had fallen to the point that this contract represented a significant portion of its business. In addition, the Committee has been advised by the contracting activity that there is a substantial amount of other webbing strap business that has not been placed on the Procurement List, which represents potential business for the current contractor and other commercial firms. For all these reasons, the Committee has concluded that addition of the strap to the Procurement List will not have a severe adverse impact on the current contractor.

The Committee does not consider loss of the opportunity to bid on Government procurements of an item for which a bidder does not hold a contract to constitute severe adverse impact on a company, because the company would lose only the hope of getting a contract and not actual business. While the commenting manufacturer has been raising the same argument periodically with the Committee for many years, it has not been able to show actual impact on its business from Procurement List additions where it has not been the current contractor. Moreover, as noted above, a large number of webbing straps remain available for the commenting manufacturer to compete to supply. Consequently, the Committee has concluded that addition of this webbing strap to the Procurement List will not

have a severe adverse impact on the commenting manufacturer.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the commodities and service and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the commodities and service listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the commodities and service to the Government.

2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodities and service.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and service to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities and service proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following commodities and service are hereby added to the Procurement List:

#### Commodities

Strap, Webbing  
5340-01-114-7712  
Tape, Electronic Data Processing  
7045-01-086-2044  
Mophead, Looped-end  
7920-01-437-8636  
7920-01-437-9805  
7920-01-437-9806  
7920-01-437-9810  
7920-01-437-9811  
Vest, Grenade Carrier  
8415-01-317-1622

#### Service

Administrative/General Support Services,  
Various Field Offices,  
Richmond/Charlottesville, Virginia

This action does not affect current contracts awarded prior to the effective date of this addition or options that may be exercised under those contracts.

**Beverly L. Milkman,**

*Executive Director.*

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